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## **Sen. Cassis: Michigan must live within its means**

**LANSING** – State Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, issued the following statement Thursday on her proposal for Michigan to live within its means:

“The goal of Joint Resolution D is to extend the Headlee Amendment adopted in the late 1970s to require state government to live within its means. It sets forth a cap on state spending tied to the annual rate of inflation and population changes. I want to strongly emphasize that my proposal is no Colorado TABOR.”

“The ‘Michigan’s Living Within its Means Resolution’ focuses on limiting spending not revenues. It also returns surplus revenue to the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF) providing a cushion for Michigan in times of emergency or crisis. This mechanism also is intended to stabilize the economic up and down cycles which we have had in previous years.”

“One of the major flaws of the Colorado plan is the fact that it left the hands of legislators tied when unexpected problems occurred. We learned from their experience. We don’t want to repeat Colorado’s mistakes. Importantly, my plan contains a means for the Legislature to deposit excess revenue into the BSF, so we can be prepared to deal with emergencies and ensure our state does not face the same challenges as Colorado.”

“I am deeply aware of the magnitude of changing the Constitution. This is a serious undertaking. We have a duty to research, reflect and gather input from knowledgeable experts. I am committed to taking the time to put together a plan that can be voted on by the citizens of our state that is smart, responsible and flexible enough to meet the health, safety and welfare of our citizens.”

“In good times and in bad, Michigan residents depend on state government to provide necessary services. We must be able to deliver on that promise. Just like families and businesses, government should live within its means – citizens have told us that government should be effective, efficient and accountable.”

“Now, more than ever, we need tax reform accompanied by spending reform to stimulate Michigan’s ailing economy and put people back to work.”

For more information or to arrange to speak with Sen. Cassis, please contact her office at 517-373-1758.

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